

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Replace the paragraph at page 1, lines 5-7, with:

This application is a continuation-in-part of Serial No. 10/286,677 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,612,776 B1), which was filed on November 1, 2002, and the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

Replace the paragraph at page 2, lines 6-11, with:

The slab has relatively thinner portions, along which the slab is breakable to form said blocks. The slab has relatively thicker portions, which become said blocks when the slab is broken along the relatively thinner portions. ~~Serial No. 10/286,677~~ U.S. Patent No. 6,612,776 B1, *supra*, illustrates and describes an embodiment where- in the relatively thicker portions are arranged in parallel rows and parallel columns, before the slab is broken along the relatively thinner portions.